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SUBJECT: SMA AGREEMENT 2007-2008 INITIALED

REF: SEOUL 04116

1. (SBU) On December 8, 2006, Pol M/C Joseph Yun and MOFAT Director General for North American Affairs Cho Tae-yong initialed the English language text of the agreed Special Measures Agreement (SMA). DG Cho commented that he was pleasantly surprised at the positive ROK press coverage on SMA and congratulated both sides on reaching a "reasonable" agreement. Recalling his recent meetings with lawmakers who serve on the Foreign Affairs Committee, DG Cho shared that despite initial opposition from some National Assembly members, he did not foresee big obstacles with obtaining the National Assembly approval. POL M/C Yun thanked DG Cho for his efforts and those of his team.

2. (SBU) Post will coordinate a formal signing ceremony upon further instructions.  
VERSHBOW